Deputationists in the National Airports Authority

1724. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 8000 employees were appointed on deputation in the National Airports Authority from 1st June, 1986 onwards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these deputationists have neither been absorbed in the National Airports Authority so far nor they have been paid deputation allowance; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Under the National Airports Authority Act, 1985 about 8000 employees holding office under the DGCA were treated as on deputation with the NAA and were to hold office in the Authority on the same terms & conditions of service. These employees are to be given option by the NAA for absorption in regular service of the Authority. Terms of absorption are to be finalised.

Applications for passport with passport offices in Jalandhar and Chandigarh

1725. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for passports received, rejected and pending and the number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices of Jalandhar and Chandigarh during the last five years;

(b) the reasons for keeping the applications pending and for their rejection;

(c) the number of passports issued by the above passport offices within one month, two months, three months, four months, five months and above, of the receipt of application during the last two years; and

(d) whether Government are taking steps to ensure that passports are issued within one or two months of the receipt of an application?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) Information is being collected.

(d) Steps have been taken to ensure issue of passports within 5 working days after receipt of clear police reports. Concerned authorities have also been requested to expedite police reports of passport applicants.

Public and private passengers transport vehicles in Punjab

1726. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of vehicles under Punjab Roadways and PRTC and the number of private passenger transport vehicles plying in Punjab;

(b) what is the amount of passenger tax that has been paid by public sector road transport and the private sector road transport companies during the last five years;

(c) whether the transport workers have submitted any memorandum to Government regarding improvement of public sector transport and regarding the evasion of passenger tax by the private companies; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of passenger vehicles under Punjab Roadways, PRTC and Private Operation are as under:—

Puujab Roadways	PRTC	Private passenger transport	Municipal Corporation
2346	1075	2651	100

(b) During last five years i.e. 1984-85 to 1988-89, the passenger tax paid by public sector and private sector transporters is Rs. 120.09 crores and Rs. 40.06 crores, respectively.

(c) and (d) The Government of Punjab have intimated that the representatives of the Union of transport workers have met Transport Secretary in this context and they have been asked to give concrete suggestions for evolving appropriate schemes. The State Government has also decided to collect passenger tax as on a lump sum basis. In order to check evasion of passenger tax, checkings have been intensified.

Frequency of bus service of routes 541 and 490

1727. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the frequencies of DTC bus service of routes 541 and 490 which originate from C.R. Park to Jantar Mantar;

(b) whether it is a fact that quite often the frequency of the services is very long and number of buses put on that route is very limited;

(c) whether complaints have been received from time to time about long intervals, frequent breakdowns and non-punctuality of these services; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the frequency of these services and improve their running conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Route No. 490 originates from DDA Flat, Kalkaji and terminates at Jantar Mantar. It has frequency of 20/40 minutes. Route No. 541 starts from Chitranjan Park and terminates at Jantar Mantar. It has a frequency of 26/52 minutes.

(b) The scheduled frequency of route and number of buses put on route is maintained throughout the day. However, sometimes due to traffic diversion, accident, break-down and non-availability of substitute bus, there is a gap in the frequency.

(c) Some complaints of this nature have been received.

(d) Existing services of route No. 490 and 541 are catering to the tarffic needs of the area adequately with an operational efficiency of 94 per cent and 96 per cent respectively.

In addition to the direct services running between Chitranjan Park and Jantar Mantar, change-over facilities are also available at convenient points on Routes 411, 412, 424 and 490 which pass through Chitranjan Park and provide direct travel link with many important places of the city.

During peak hours in the morning, Special Trips have been provided on route No. 490 from Chitranjan Park and in the evening from Krishi Bhavan to cater to the additional demand of office goers. There is however no proposal to increase the frequency.

Limited stops bus service on route No. 320

1728. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Limited stops bus service on Route No. 320 used to operate from Swaran Talkies to Central Secretariat thereby enabling the Office-goers to reach office before 9.30 a.m.; and

(b) if so, whether it is still operating and, if not, why it has been discontinued and by when it is likely to restart?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) One Limited stop trip on route No. 320 is operating from Swaran Talkies to Central Secretariat at 8.00 hours. Limited stop trip which was earlier operating from Swaran Talkies for Central Secretariat at 0905 hours has been converted into ordinary trip as it was not being patronised well and was underutilised. The existing trips, special as well as ordinary, on route No. 320 running between 0800 hours to 0945 hours are serving the commuters of the area, adequately.